

## SENATE RESOLUTION 172

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Harold David Head on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable physicians who have dedicated their professional careers and personal excellence to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Harold David Head, M.D., of Chattanooga is one such estimable physician who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the son of an officer in the United States Army, Dr. Head grew up in exotic locations overseas and graduated from high school in Tokyo, Japan; returning stateside to attend college, he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Washington & Lee University in Virginia before enrolling in medical school at Duke University; and

WHEREAS, commissioned in the United States Army in 1966 as part of a student detachment to attend Duke's School of Medicine, Dr. Head later moved to Washington, D.C., to complete his internship in surgery at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in 1971; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Head completed residencies in General Surgery and Thoracic Surgery at Walter Reed from 1971 to 1977 and later served as Chief of Surgery and Staff Thoracic Surgeon at the U.S. Army Hospital in Seoul, South Korea, for a year before completing a fellowship in Congenital Cardiovascular Surgery at the University of Alabama-Birmingham in 1979; and

WHEREAS, from 1979 to 1983, Dr. Harold Head served as the Assistant Chief of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery at Walter Reed while also serving on the staff of the Cardiothoracic Surgery Service at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, from 1980 to 1983; and

WHEREAS, named the Chief of Thoracic Surgery at Brooke Army Medical Center in Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in 1983, Dr. Head held the post until his retirement from the U.S. Army Medical Corps in 1986, having reached the rank of Colonel and having received numerous military awards, including the Legion of Merit, the Order of Military Medical Merit, and the Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; and

WHEREAS, entering private practice, Dr. Harold Head worked in California and Ohio as an Adult and Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgeon; he served as consulting medical staff at Valley Children's Hospital in Fresno, California, from 1986 to 1994, and was on the medical staff of several hospitals in Dayton, Ohio, including Wright-Patterson U.S. Air Force Medical Center from 1990 to 1994, when he relocated to Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to sharing his skills with future medical professionals, Dr. Head has served as a cardiothoracic staff attending surgeon for the Thoracic Surgery residency at Walter Reed from 1979 to 1983 and was program director for the residency in thoracic surgery at Brooke Army Medical Center from 1983 to 1986; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the demands of his private practice, Dr. Harold Head served as cardiothoracic staff attending surgeon for the residency in surgery from 1986 to 1990 at Valley Medical Center, a University of California at San Francisco-affiliated hospital in Fresno, California, and in that same capacity at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, from 1990 to 1994; and

WHEREAS, named Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery at Wright State in 1991, Dr. Head served in that capacity until relocating to Chattanooga, and since 1996, he has served as Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine's Chattanooga Unit, where he received the Outstanding Teaching Award for Surgical Specialties in 1997, 1999, and 2003, and the Award named in his honor in 2003; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated scholar as well as a talented practitioner in his specialty, Dr. Head has completed numerous publications, book chapters, exhibits, movies, and presentations while continuing to work on his own medical education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harold Head exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; now taking a much deserved retirement, Dr. Head looks forward to traveling and spending more time with his family; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Head enjoys the loving support of his wife, Dr. Laura E. Witherspoon, and is the proud father of six children and the beloved grandfather of three grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Dr. Harold David Head has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues, his patients, and the good people of Tennessee and this Nation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we extend to Dr. Harold David Head our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.